

**Agenda**  
**Board meeting**  
**April 3, 2017**

**1) Approval of Minutes**

approved by majority

**2) Rites of May**

ROM Chairs

- A hand out flyer was passed out advertising Rites of May.
- A t-shirt design by students begins next week - one of the art teachers is leading this activity.
- There will be the return of carnival games - fewer games but bigger - targeting lower kovler
- The idea of food trucks was explored - but it seems to not be working out well
- There are a series of polls on [labparents.org](http://labparents.org) - surveying things like options for food, etc. kind of getting people interested, and making them feel like they are involved
- T-shirt design contest - t-shirts will only be sold at the event
- Games
- Art installation - favorite memories of the year

**3) Nominations**

Nancy Stern

- Elections will run from 13th-30th results announced at the May meeting
- Transition meetings will begin in May
- Amanda and Kim plan on having the retreat on the early side - end of June/early July (Kim and Amanda asked if Lena Jessen would consider hosting - she graciously agreed)
- amanda will circulate a poll

- talked about catching the volunteers that are not elected -

#### 4) Councils Report

##### ESH April

- Spring Mix and Mingle – Friday Apr 6
  - Received 25 RSVP's from room parents to date
  - Tiffany and Shipra planning
- ESH all grade levels event: Earth Day Celebration – Thursday April 20<sup>th</sup>
  - Enews - Corrected Friday 3/31
  - After school-work with extended day
  - Extended day drops or Reusable Center Projects - Michelle Hitsch
  - High School emcee – Alexis (Lex) Porter

##### May

- Teacher appreciation Day - Tuesday May 2 - boxed lunches for the teachers
  - Manali and Shipra
- Conferences – Friday May 5<sup>th</sup> & May 12<sup>th</sup>
  - Child Care Provided
  - Tiffany & Leny
- Rites of May - May Saturday 20, 2017
  - Amy is leading ESH involvement

##### June

- Cookies & Lemonade - TBD
- Popsicle Day
  - Searching for healthier/neater option
- 2017 -2018 Parent Orientation – Thursday August 31st

## Lower School

### I. **“Transition” Dates**

- Parents transitioning from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade will meet Principal Sylvie and Third Grade faculty on May 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm either in Judd 116, MS theatre or elsewhere.
- Parents transitioning from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> grade will have a “coffee” with Principal Sylvie on May 5<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am in Blaine Theatre (201)
- Parents transitioning from 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> grade will have a “coffee” with Principal Sylvie on May 12<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am in Blaine Theatre.

LS Council will only support in promoting these events on PA website, posting flyers and Lab Moms and Dads’ FB page.

### II. **Parent to Parent Transition Tours**

Now that the “Transition” dates have been established, planning for our rising 3<sup>rd</sup> grade parent tours can begin. Sylvie and Joanne suggested the week of May 8<sup>th</sup> (but not May 12<sup>th</sup> as that is the 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> grade transition meeting). LS Council is considering two different tour dates with each council person touring a group of 5-6 parents. Sylvie will also promote these parent to parent tours at her 3<sup>rd</sup> transition meeting. Sign up genius to sign up.

Sara Skelly will take the lead on these tours.

### III. **Parent to Parent Meetings 2017-2018**

Andee and Vanessa are interested in exploring quarterly parent to parent meetings for Lower School, next year. They will be similarly modeled after HS and MS’ parent to parent, where a Learning and Counseling coordinator will attend. These are meant to address parenting issues, be it navigating social relationships, homework, bedtimes, etc.

### IV. **Grade Level Events**

Although three 4<sup>th</sup> grade parents stepped forward to organize a grade level event, it appears that it may not happen due to the late scheduling. Sara has been following up with Jeff Schmidt to see if additional assistance is needed.

On the other hand, Vanessa and EJ Joshi may be moving forward with hosting a third grade level event at Cradles to Crayons for early June.

Tina Louie announced that there are talks for a 5<sup>th</sup> grade level event.

Next year, LS Council may consider appointing one council person to be in charge of all grade level events. That person could book the room/gym in advance, recruit parent volunteers to execute it, provide a budgetary framework for food and entertainment, speak to previous council members for old and new ideas, etc. Providing our volunteers with some structure, may be helpful in the execution of a grade level event.

V. **Rites of May**

Sylvie requested that the Lower School Bike Ride be brought back. Andee will follow-up with the committee and Tina Louie, to organize this bike ride. Adding locations of Divvy bikes - to bike ride. Check with Officer Marshall -

VI. **Teacher Appreciation Day**

It was decided that LS Teacher Appreciation Day will be May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vanessa will lead this event including ordering the food, brainstorming ideas for lobby decorating, getting flowers/balloons or anything else for the luncheon room. She will follow-up with Lena Jessen, Sara Souri and/or Saima Sufi for last year's invoice and menu.

Unfortunately, Vanessa will be out of town on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, so the remaining councilmembers will follow-through to ensure a successful luncheon.

VII. **LS Council Nominations**

EJ Joshi, a current third grade parent, has committed to running for a council position. Sara is following up with Christy Weber, and Cathy is following up with Jessica Darrow as possible candidates.

VIII. **Box Tops**

A long discussion was had about the current state of box tops. The following was decided:

- a spring campaign will move forward;
- a warning to parents will be made that we did not meet our collection goals;
- Sylvie will discuss with grade level chairs about teacher interest in box tops, including whether a reward and/or competition is inconsistent with Lab culture and community service mission; is the idea of a community service grant, not enough of an incentive to encourage kids to collect more;
- a collection bag will be available at the entrance of every class door

Sylvie believes that teachers and kids would collect more in due time. The idea of collecting for a community service grant hasn't existed long enough to sink in.

Cathy believes that the 22% drop in collection is due to the fact that there isn't a reward and competition between classes. Sylvie believes that there isn't enough data to make any conclusions.

The Pa has decided that if 12,000 box tops isn't collected by the end of the year, then the community service grant cannot be supported through this separate, dedicated stream.

### Middle School

#### **Middle School Council Report: March 2017**

#### Activities for March:

- Monthly Principal Meeting with Sandy Bixby (3/1)
- Middle School Parent to Parent (3/2)
  
- Advisory Parent Updates (3/31)
  - o March update included info on Eboo Patel, GGN, LabArts 6<sup>th</sup> grade reception, LabArts general info, Mentor Kickoff, Spring Fan Day
  
- Conversations regarding MS dress code with administration and parent representative
  
- Recruited 3 candidates to run for MS council in upcoming PA board election

#### UPCOMING

- MS and HS Parent-to-Parent, Thursday, April 6th
  - o 8am to 9am @ Judd C103 (or C116): "The Party's Over: Teen Smoking, Vaping, Binge Drinking and Beyond". Lab Parent Andrea King, PhD, Director of U of C's Clinical Addiction Research Lab, will be presenting on this very important topic
  
- Giant Gym Night, Friday, April 7th - 7pm to 9pm @ Kovler Gym
  
- 6th Grade Lab Arts Reception, Saturday, April 29th - 5pm to 7pm @ Markovitz Family Drama Studio (GPAH N106): The entire 6th grade class and their families are invited to a special viewing of LabArts in Gordon Parks Arts Hall. Light refreshments will be provided courtesy of the Parents' Association. MS Council is coordinating with LabArts committee to make sure every 6<sup>th</sup> grader has a piece of art on display
  
- MS Fan Day

- Soccer Girls vs. Willow Academy, Tuesday May 16<sup>th</sup>  
7<sup>th</sup> grade game begins at 4:30pm, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade game begins at 5:30pm

Other April Activities:

- 4/5 Principal Meeting
- More planning of 6<sup>th</sup> Grade LabArts reception on 4/29
- Teacher appreciation – lunch on 5/18
- link to online thank you card
- More planning of 8<sup>th</sup> Grade graduation
- Planning for MS Mentors and assigning families

Facebook postings about dress code - gender discrimination - enforcement of dress code - discussion with parents who are propagating this discussion. Common enforcement policy - have parents, administrations and students all on the same page.

High School

Parent to Parent  
Practice ACT for sophomore  
Teacher Appreciation  
May Project Reception  
Graduation Volunteers

**9) Diversity Committee**

Diversity Chairs

2 more programs - living our values - talking with children about what is happening in the world

may - diversity numbers in hiring - a repeat of last years program

**10) All Schools items**

- a)** Volunteer Party May 24, 2017
- b)** guest list over 400 people

- c)** Mentor update

Amanda Norton

- i)** Other new Family Welcome plans
- ii)** meetings with admissions to start the process

- iii) asking us to write to 4 people to become mentor families - will send an email link to a model email
- iv) list access to check and see if they are already signed up
- v) Orientation dates - if you need back up kim and amanda will be available if you need them. please talk to your principals and set your dates for orientation by may 1st.
- vi) Neighborhood events - really well received
- vii) locker set up?

- d) Affinity Groups Kim Stolze
- e) interested in affinity groups - is there funding available? how to get your group off the ground?
- f) Annual Meeting June 5th
- i) Annual Report

- 11) Finance** Saima Sufi
- a) Closing out grants
  - b) Next year's budgets
  - c) Pricing for Parent Nights/Café Lab packages

- 12) Communications** Frank Baldassare
- okay to ask for a blast if you miss e-news but please try not to miss e-news  
school calendar - can we add calendar deadline to the calendar?

Adjourned

Optional: Field trip to PA Office